Observance of Oil Conservation Week'

. 125. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: SHRI S: S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state;

(a) whether an 'Oil Conservation Week' was observed in January this year at the instance of his Ministry to focus attention on the importance of , conservation of petroleum products;

■(b) if so, -what schemes and pro- grammes were initiated in this con- nection and ,

(c) what is the impact thereof from January, 1991 till date? •

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM ! AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI' SATYA PRA-KASH MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. An Oil Conservation Week was observed ; from 7th to 13th January, 1991 to create mass awareness for the con- i servation of petroleum products.

(b) During the Oil Conservation week over 1600 activities of different types were undertaken for creating/ increasing mass awareness about the I benefits of conserving petroleum pro- I ducts. These activities related to the transport, agricultural, industrial and household sectors of the economy. The important among the activities were clmics, workshops, seminars, talks, truck and tractor sammelans, exhibi tions, debates, quiz competitions, paint ing competitions, compaigns for pro moting use of lubricating oils of supe rior quality and fuel-efficient equip ment and oil conservation runs.

(c) The' objective of enlarging the base of and increasing mass awareness for the conservation of petroleum products has been achieved in a sub stantial measure. It is. however, not feasible to quantify presciselv the im pact of the Oil Conservation Week seoaratelv in terms of saving of petro leum products.

Fair distribution of Petroleum Products

126. SHRi MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE; SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD: SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHA- SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN;

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the long queues.at the petrol and diesel pumps and kerosene distribution centres in Delhi and towards the complaints of hoard ing and black-marketing in these commodities in the wake of Gulf War.

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to ensure fair distribu tion of these items and to prevent their hoarding and black-marketing; and

(c) what is the present stock posi tion of petroleum products in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA); (a) Long queues were noticed at petrol and diesel pumps in Delhi between January 14-16, 1991. However, no queues were reported at kerosene distribution centres. Some complaints regarding black-marketing of diesel were also received.

(b) The following steps have been taken to ensure smooth distribution of petroleum products.

(i) inspections of retails outlets by oil companies and Delhi Administration have been intensified to check hoarding blck-marketing and other mal-practices.

(ii) appeals have been made to the public *to* avoid panic buying